

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the final Office Action dated February 23, 2006. Claims 1, 2 and 4, 5 and 8 to 16 are pending in the application, with Claims 6, 7 and 17 having been cancelled. Claims 1 and 14 to 16 have been amended, and Claims 1, 14 and 16 are in independent form. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, Claims 1, 2, 4 to 9, 11, 14, 16 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 4,931,965 (Kaneko) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,615,364 (Marks); Claims 10 and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kaneko in view of Marks and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,539,427 (Bricklin); and Claims 12 and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kaneko in view of Marks and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,232,962 (Davis). Claims 6, 7 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter and without conceding the correctness of their rejection. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the remaining claims are respectfully requested.

The present invention generally concerns an electronic board apparatus for transmitting data representing a handwritten image written on a predetermined board to an external computer. According to one feature of the invention, when the external computer cannot receive the data, the data is stored in storage means and the handwritten image is displayed based on the data stored in the storage means.

By virtue of the foregoing, in which data is stored in storage means and a handwritten image is displayed based on the stored data, a user can check whether or not a correct input has been made when an external computer cannot receive the data.

Referring specifically to the claims, independent Claim 1 as amended is directed to an electronic board apparatus for transmitting data representing a handwritten image written on a predetermined board to an external computer. The apparatus includes first determining means for determining whether or not the external computer can receive the data, storage means for storing the data, and display means for displaying the handwritten image. The apparatus also includes second determining means for determining whether or not the data is stored in the storage means, when the first determining means determines the external computer can receive the data. If the first determining means determines that the external computer cannot receive the data, the data is stored into the storage means. The display means displays the handwritten image based on the data stored in the storage means, when the data is stored in the storage means. In addition, if the first determining means determines that the external computer can receive the data, the data stored into the storage means and data representing a handwritten image written on the predetermined board at that time are transmitted to the external computer.

Independent Claim 14 as amended is directed to an electronic board apparatus. The apparatus includes data generation means for generating data representing a handwritten image written on a predetermined board, and transmitting means for transmitting the data to an external computer. The apparatus also includes first determining means for determining whether or not the external computer can receive the data, storage means for storing the data, and display means for displaying the handwritten image. In addition, the apparatus includes second determining means for determining whether or not the data is stored in the storage means, when the first determining means determines the external computer can receive the data. If the first determining means

determines that the external computer cannot receive the data, the data is stored into the storage means. The display means displays the handwritten image based on the data stored in the storage means, when the data is stored in the storage means. In addition, if the first determining means determines that the external computer can receive the data, the transmitting means transmits the data stored into the storage means and data representing a handwritten image written on the predetermined board at that time to the external computer.

Independent Claim 16 as amended is directed to a data processing method for an electronic board apparatus for transmitting data representing a handwritten image written on a predetermined board to an external computer. The method includes a first determining step of determining whether or not the external computer can receive the data, and a storing step of storing the data into storage means provided in the electronic board apparatus, if the first determining step determines that the external computer cannot receive the data. The method also includes a displaying step of displaying the handwritten image on a display provided on the electronic board apparatus, and a second determining step of determining whether or not the data is stored in the storage means, when the first determining step determines the external computer can receive the data. The displaying step displays the handwritten image on the display based on the data stored in the storage means, when the data is stored in the storage means. In addition, if the first determining step determines that the external computer can receive the data, the data stored into the storage means and data representing a handwritten image written on the predetermined board at that time are transmitted to the external computer.

The applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the invention of the subject application. In particular, Kaneko, Marks, Bricklin and Davis are not seen to disclose or suggest at least the feature that when an external computer cannot receive data representing a handwritten image, the data is stored in storage means and the handwritten image is displayed based on the data stored in the storage means.

As understood by Applicants, Kaneko discloses a coordinates input apparatus in which a display 11 is adapted to be superposed on a propagation medium 8 so that it can display the position data input by an input pen 3 in real time, as if the position is written by a pencil on a sheet. See Kaneko, column 4, lines 49 to 52; and Figure 1.

As such, Kaneko is seen to disclose the display of input data in real time. However, nothing in Kaneko is seen to disclose or suggest that a handwritten image is displayed based on data stored in storage means, muchless that the data is stored in the storage means and the handwritten image is displayed when an external computer cannot receive the data.

In its rejection of now-cancelled Claim 7, the Office Action contended that since Kaneko's display 11 can receive coordinate information directly from a processor of a device, it would be just as able to send coordinate information from a stored location in the memory of the device. Applicants respectfully disagree, since this contention is not supported by any teachings in the prior art itself. Accordingly, if above contention is repeated in the next Office Action, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner produce authority to support the contention.


In addition, Marks, Bricklin and Davis have been reviewed and are not seen to compensate for the deficiencies of Kaneko.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, independent Claims 1, 14 and 16 as amended are believed to be allowable over the applied references.

The other claims in the application are each dependent from the independent claims and are believed to be allowable over the applied references for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

No other matters being raised, it is believed that the entire application is fully in condition for allowance, and such action is courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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